

Indiana Department of Homeland Security – Emergency Management

Higher Education Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2008

Indiana Public Safety Academy – Fort Wayne, Indiana

Tom Christenberry called meeting to order and introduced agenda.

Present: Tom Christenberry, Dan Burgei, Don Perry, Brad Thatcher, Tom Beckner, Jason Carroll, Pam Sproule, Lee Ann Wambach, Don Wilson

Don Perry introduced Bernie Beier, Director of Homeland Security and mentioned that our meeting room serves as Emergency Operation Center for Allen County. He also described some backup services in the building and the planning process in meeting federal standards for communication, architectural features, data management, etc. The Public Safety Academy building serves as Emergency Operations Center and educational center and offers integrated command & control. He also described a recent partnership with Indiana Tech undergrad students on data and information management. Don Perry also described the mission of the Public Safety Academy to involve diverse disciplines in training for 12 counties and the multiple agencies that participate in training: Federal, State, and County Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, Emergency Services, etc. The Academy offers a larger venue and opportunities for cross-fertilization of ideas and resources.

Tom Beckner (co-host) described Tri-State University's programs offered through the School of Professional Studies for adult learners – evening & weekend classes.

Criminal Justice and Emergency Management Program Development – new programs evolved from development of Public Safety Academy – started talks in March 2006 on academic program development and researched existing programs & courses. Higher Learning Commission visited in May 2007, and programs started in fall of 2007.

Courses are offered in an accelerated format – 8 weeks long, and TSU offers credit granted for previous training. Faculty are credentialed adjuncts, allowing further connections with PSA and local agency partnerships. Students benefit from full use of experts as guest speakers, and the instructors of record serve as coordinators and facilitators.

Course Requirements - Intro, Hazard Mitigation & Planning, Risk Assessment, Disaster Relief & Recovery, Haz Mat Ops, Assessing Haz Weather, Preparedness & Response Ops, Social Dimensions of Disaster, Management of Terror, Capstone. Material from FEMA courses and DHS training intentionally incorporated, and on-line FEMA courses are often assigned as homework for Tri-State's courses.

Vision of these programs at Tri-State: To professionalize Emergency Management positions, accommodate the emerging needs of the profession, parallel with nationally recognized standards, leverage collaboration among agencies, enhance academic partnerships for statewide initiatives. “Incentivize the education process.”

Grad program MS in Criminal Justice – w/Emergency Management Concentration. This cohort Group meets 1 night/week and Saturday morning.

Fort Wayne Vocational/Technical High School has a fire science program and will add a criminal justice program soon.

Don described the capacity for distance education courses at PSA – lecture rooms, studio, classrooms, etc.

Committee Reports

Conference (Dave Tate absent)

Pam Soule reported on agenda for EMAI part of conference. EMAI is looking for a well-known expert as a guest speaker. Also developing session topics on time management and basic Microsoft Office skills for managers, e.g. Outlook, Excel. Hoping experts might come from colleges at low cost to offer this training. a– also want to offer skills for new emergency managers – many offers of speakers and courses that could meet these needs. Brad asked if Higher Ed board could offer a breakout session on educational opportunities – panel discussion.

Ideas discussed - IDHS-EM HE - Oct 15-16 – EMAI 17(LERC) EMAI-18-19. Tracks for us – Campus Safety, public health, Higher Education –

Panel discussion of what education needs exist for emergency directors – many ideas offered on needs, resources, and opportunities.

Amy Lindsey suggested panel presentation – VA Tech, NIU and Beloit, plus ISU guy could participate.

(Probably need to establish a template or brief outline of panel presentations to report and list on conference program.)

Campus Safety

Next meeting is June 10 at IV Tech-Indianapolis. Pam asked to include Howe Military School for campus safety.

Membership – Don Wilson reporting

Participating board members could be comped for conference registration. (By-laws’ guidelines say attend 4 meetings.)

Meeting schedule could be changed to accommodate on-line meetings – may increase participation and save fuel expenses.

Corporate Partnerships – Jason Carroll – contacted Roche and Lilly to ask for support. Prizes & scholarships for conference poster session winners.

Ideas for organizing an event during conference:

INFRAGARD – (Steve Pappas) joint Law Enforcement/FBI information sharing

ASIC – American Society for Industrial Security

Information Technology User Group for Indiana colleges has been formed – IT disaster recovery. Brought speaker in from OSU to address Industrial HE Business Continuity /Disaster Recovery User Group

IDHS - Brad Thatcher reporting

Jordan Graves (met with Leadership Retreat group in April) has a new position in intelligence FUSION center. Brad will create a new position at IDHS – to support action of this board. Update website, follow up on committee needs, etc.

FEMA Higher Ed Conference is June 2 – 5 – Brad will attend, also Kelly Brown will attend from IUK. Brad would like to bring a group from Indiana schools in future years.

\$3200 left from 07 funding – have ordered name plates for meetings and possibly use for prizes for poster session winners.

7 interns working at IDHS with 1 more added soon. Also a governor's fellow – helping out in IDHS – creating opportunities for college students. Project oriented – research for IDHS – e.g. fire safety training materials, background research.

Competitive Training Grants – out on Grants.gov and FEMA.gov next week (May 20) with 3 week deadline to submit outline and another month to submit full proposal. Amy may also participate as a reviewer. About \$38 million available.

IADLEST Conference in Indianapolis June 2008

Next meeting July 18, 2008 at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Thad Godish will host.

September 19 meeting will be held in Indianapolis area.

Adjourn -